

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method of treating cancer in an individual comprising administering an Aurora kinase inhibitor and a mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor to said individual.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said tumour cell is resistant to said agent that inhibits mitotic spindle assembly.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein the mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor is a taxane.
4. (Original) A method according to claim 3 wherein the taxane is paclitaxel or a derivative thereof.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 4 wherein the Aurora kinase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 4- (4- (N benzoylamino) anilino) -6- methoxy -7- (3- (1 morpholino) propoxy) quinazoline and Hesperadin.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~claim 1 to 4]] wherein the Aurora kinase inhibitor is an antibody molecule which specifically binds to an Aurora kinase.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~claim 1 to 4]] wherein the Aurora kinase inhibitor is a sense or anti-sense nucleic acid molecule that inhibits the expression of an Aurora kinase.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~claim 1 to 7 wherein the cancer is an epithelial cancer.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8 wherein the epithelial cancer is skin, thyroid, colon, pancreas, lung, prostate, cervical, ovarian or breast cancer.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~claim 1 to 7 wherein the cancer is liver, kidney or brain cancer.

11. (Original) A method of sensitising a tumour cell in an individual to an agent which inhibits mitotic spindle assembly comprising administering an Aurora kinase inhibitor to the individual.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 wherein said tumour cell is resistant to said agent which inhibits mitotic spindle assembly.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11 ~~or claim 12~~ wherein the mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor is a taxane.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein the taxane is paclitaxel or a derivative thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 11 to 14 wherein the Aurora kinase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 4- (N benzoylamino) anilino) -6- methoxy -7- (3- (1 morpholino) propoxy) quinazoline and Hesperadin.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 11 to 14 wherein the Aurora kinase inhibitor is an antibody molecule which specifically binds to an Aurora kinase.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 11 to 14 wherein the Aurora kinase inhibitor is a sense or anti-sense nucleic acid molecule which inhibits the expression of an Aurora kinase.

18. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an Aurora kinase inhibitor and a mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor.

19. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 18 comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

20. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 18 ~~or claim 19~~ wherein the mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor is a taxane.

21. (Original) A composition according to claim 20 wherein the taxane is paclitaxel or a derivative thereof.

22. (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 18 to 21 wherein the Aurora kinase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 4- (4- (N benzoylamino) anilino) -6- methoxy -7- (3- (1 morpholino) propoxy) quinazoline and Hesperadin.

23. (Original) A method of determining the resistance of a tumour cell to a mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor comprising; measuring the, expression of Aurora kinase in said tumour cell, elevated expression of Aurora kinase in said tumour cell relative to a non-tumour cell being indicative of the resistance of said tumour cell to the agent.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 23 wherein the mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor is a taxane.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 24 wherein the taxane is paclitaxel.

26. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~claim 23 to 25 wherein the expression of Aurora kinase in said cell is measured by determining the amount of Aurora kinase RNA in said cell.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~claim 23 to 25 wherein the expression of Aurora kinase in said cell is measured by determining the copy number in said cell of nucleic acid that encodes Aurora kinase.

28. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~claim 23 to 25 wherein the expression of Aurora in said cell is measured by determining the amount of Aurora kinase polypeptide in said cell.

29. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims~~any one of claimsclaim 23 to 28 wherein the Aurora kinase is Aurora A.

30. (Original) A kit for use in a method of determining the sensitivity of a tumour cell to a mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor comprising oligonucleotide primers suitable for specific amplification of an Aurora kinase nucleic acid sequence.

31. (Original) A kit for use in a method of determining the sensitivity of a tumour cell to a mitotic spindle assembly inhibitor comprising an antibody molecule which binds specifically to an Aurora kinase.

32. (Original) A kit according to claim 31 comprising a labelled secondary antibody and one or more label detection reagents.

Claims 33-51 (Cancelled)